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No. 18,657. 號七十五百六千八萬一第 日六十二月正年午戊 HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 8th, 1918. 五拜禮 號八月三年七國民華中 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

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TIME-TABLE.
On and after WEDNESDAY, 15th DECEMBER, 1917, until further Notice.

DOWN TRAINS.

Stations	No. 5 Through Express a.m.	No. 7 Local a.m.	No. 9 Through Express a.m.	No. 11 Local a.m.	No. 13 Through Express p.m.	No. 15 Local p.m.	No. 17 Through Express p.m.	No. 19 Local p.m.	No. 21 Through Express p.m.
CANTON (Tai Sha Tau)	dep. 7.25		dep. 7.55		dep. 8.25		dep. 8.55		dep. 9.25
SHUN CHUI	dep. 7.40		dep. 8.10		dep. 8.40		dep. 9.10		dep. 9.40
YUNG SHUI	dep. 7.55		dep. 8.25		dep. 8.55		dep. 9.25		dep. 9.55
TAIPO MARKET	dep. 8.10		dep. 8.40		dep. 9.10		dep. 9.40		dep. 10.10
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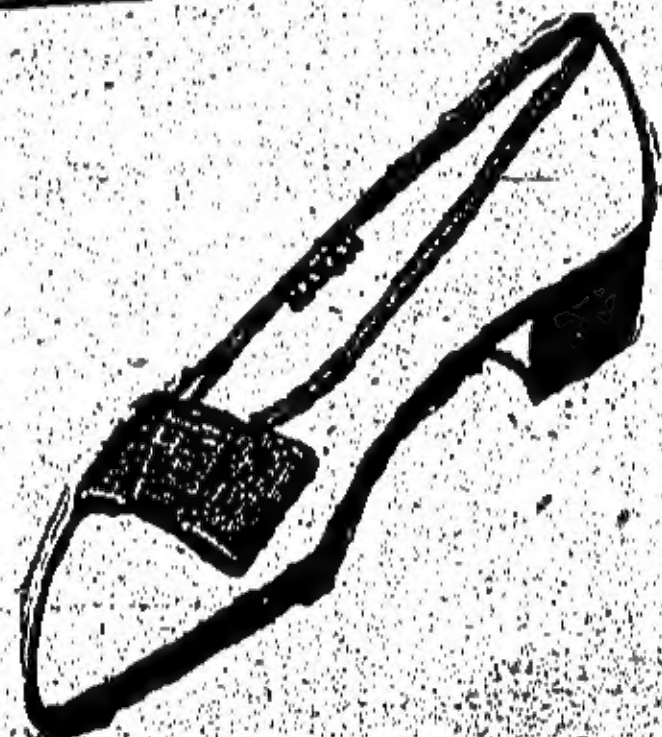
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Agents.

THE RACECOURSE DISASTER.

OPENING OF THE ENQUIRY.

BUILDING REGULATIONS NOT ENFORCED IN THE CASE OF
MATCHEDS.

THE TURF OF THE GOLF COURSE.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO BE CALLED.

The enquiry into the disaster at the Race-course, for which the preliminary arrangements were made on Monday, was opened before the Coroner, Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Magistracy yesterday. There were a fair number of Chinese present in the Court. The jury—Messrs. A. H. Barlow, W. O. Jack and J. H. Wallace—were provided with accommodation on the Magistrate's Bench. The Crown Solicitor, Mr. G. H. Wakeman, appeared on behalf of the Government; Mr. F. B. L. Bowley represented the contractor for the building of the matcheds, Tse Hok; Mr. H. J. Gedge represented the Jockey Club and the relatives of the late Mr. Albert Ah Wee; Mr. Leo d'Almada appeared for the owners of stands Nos. 7 and 8 and for the families of Mr. L. Xavier and Mr. J. Rosario and for the husband of Mrs. Razack. Mr. Lo represented twelve Chinese families who had lost relatives in the catastrophe. The Captain Superintendent of Police, Mr. C. McI. Messer, was also present to watch the proceedings.

The enquiry, technically speaking, was into the cause of death of Ma Kan Shi, a Chinese woman who lost her life in the disaster and whose body was identified by her husband.

The Coroner—This Court not having been designed to accommodate jury, solicitors, and representatives of the Press, at the request of the Crown Solicitor, I have asked the gentlemen of the jury to sit on my right. Before continuing the inquiry I should like to say, with reference to a letter which appeared in the Press asking for any persons desiring to give evidence to communicate with me, that there is one particular on which I should like to receive help. If anyone in the Colony has a photograph of the matcheds for previous years—any previous year—I shall be very glad if he will produce it at this inquiry. I have a photograph of the year 1914, but for other years I have not been able to obtain any.

EVIDENCE OF IDENTIFICATION.

Ma Kung Fung, next-compradore of the British-American Tobacco Company, living at 21, Jervoise Street, the husband of Ma Kan Shi, gave evidence of identification. On February 26th he went to the races with his wife and daughter. At 2.30 p.m. he left them in the Colonial Stand and went to the United Stand. About 3 o'clock he heard a noise and saw all the people running. The matcheds where he was fell down; he fell down, and nearly two hundred people fell on him. He got out in about two minutes and went to search for his wife. When he reached the Colonial Stand there was a fire there. He did not find his wife and daughter. He went to the Race-course the next morning, shortly after 7 o'clock, and found the body of his wife burned. He recognised the body by the garters and portions of the sleeves of the coat. He took the body to Canton for burial. Subsequently he identified at the Police Station the bangles produced in Court as belonging to his wife. They were worn by her at the races.

By Mr. Bowley—His wife was 30 years of age. The Colonial Stand had two floors; he left his wife on the bottom floor. No entrance money had to be paid to go into the Colonial Stand, and no tickets were necessary. There was a cash sweep on the bottom floor. There was no one at the stand to prevent people going in in great numbers. There was no gate, simply an open door-way. When he left his wife in the stand it was not crowded. He did not have to pay to go into the United Stand. There was a cash sweep there, also, and any number of people could go in as they wished. There was only one floor on the United Stand, and it was crowded. He got out on the Race-course side of the stand. He heard a noise as of people running and yelling. He first saw the fire when he was making his way to the Colonial Stand.

By Mr. Lo—When he was going to the Colonial Stand to try to save his wife, some soldiers—or some people in uniform

—stopped him from going near the flames. He called upon the bystanders to assist him, but no one would listen.

Dr. Macfarlane said that at the Race-course on February 27th he made an examination of a Chinese female, which was identified as the body of Ma Kan Shi by Ma Kung Fung. In his opinion the cause of death was suffocation. The body was considerably charred.

By Mr. Gedge—He did not remember the body of Albert Ah Wee. The body was numbered, but he could not say whether it was put on one side for burial.

Inspector Watt said the body of Ma Kan Shi was identified in his presence by the first witness. The body had been taken from the vicinity of the Colonial Stand.

This completed the evidence of identification.

THE LETTING OF THE SITES.

Mr. David Wood, Supt. of Accounts, Correspondence and Stores, of the Public Works Department, was then called. He said he looked after the procedure for letting the booths on the Race-course, and had done so for a number of years. The Public Works Department obtained authority from the Government to instruct the Government auctioneers to sell by auction the right to erect and occupy matcheds on certain defined sites on the Race-course to the north of the Grand Stand. This authority was obtained this year on the same terms as last year, and he wrote the following letter to Messrs. Hughes & Hough, the Government auctioneers:—

"Sirs,—I have to request you to be good enough to make the usual arrangements for putting up to sale at public auction the right to erect and occupy matcheds at Wongneichong for the forthcoming races.

"Intending bidders should be informed that the prohibition against gambling on the Race-course or its approaches remains in force.

"The conditions of letting should be similar to those of last year.

"I enclose 20 copies of sale plans and shall be glad if the result of the sale be referred to me in due course—Yours, etc."

"D. Wood."

"For the Director of Public Works." On January 21st the P.W.D. received the account of sale, produced from Messrs. Hughes & Hough, the auctioneers. With it they received a copy of the conditions of letting.

A copy of the conditions was produced, and No. 6 stated that the tenant of each booth site should protect the turf on such site by placing over the whole area thereof boards at least half-an-inch thick.

Continuing his evidence, Mr. Wood said the money realized from the sale was collected by the auctioneers, who gave their receipt to the purchaser. On presentation of that receipt to the Building Ordinance Office the purchaser was given a permit to erect a matcheds. The present conditions had been in force since 1912. The conditions were drawn up by the P.W.D. and approved by the Director.

By Mr. Bowley—The conditions produced in Court were the only ones the Government made as regarded the letting of the sites for the matcheds. All questions relating to the material for the matcheds were left to the Director of Public Works.

But you are here as the representative of the Public Works?—Only as far as the letting of the site is concerned.

The conditions contain no provision for precautions against fire?—Nothing in the letting conditions.

There is no conditions to prevent the lessee having cooking arrangements under or in the matcheds?—Nothing in these conditions.

No prohibition against smoking?—No.

Nothing about overcrowding?—No, nothing here.

The prohibition against gambling, that means, I suppose, in the matcheds?—Yes.

Do the Public Works take any steps to enforce that condition?—I do not know.

There is no penalty attached for a breach of the regulations on this subject?—Nothing in the letting conditions.

This prohibition is a dead-letter?—I don't know.

All the sites of these matcheds are Crown-land?—Yes.

Some of the sites used by the matcheds are on ground where golf is played but, nevertheless, that is also Crown-land?—Yes.

As far as you are aware the Crown land of the Colony is under the control of the Director of Public Works?—Yes.

Subject to the control of H.E. (the Governor), the Director of Public Works could make any conditions he pleased as regards the users of Crown-land?—Yes, I take it so.

The letting of these sites is a purely voluntary act on the part of the Government. They are under no obligation to let them, are they?—No.

What was the amount realized by the sale?

Reference was made to the a/c sale previously handed into Court, and it was announced that the proceeds amounted to \$13,420.50—two or three dollars less than last year.

Are the sites identical with those of last year?—Yes.

What change has been made in the conditions of letting compared with those of 1912?—They are identical with those now in use except that Nos. 7 and 8 have been added and there has been a change in No. 6.

As stated above, Condition No. 6 protected the whole area on which the matcheds were situated. Previously the tenders for certain booths were required to protect the putting greens only by placing board three-eighths of an inch thick over such greens. Condition 7 referred to sanitary measures. Condition 8 stated "The tenants of booth sites numbered 6—17 inclusive shall provide a gangway ten feet wide at the narrowest portion as indicated on the plan showing the sites. Such gangways shall be formed of planks placed close together and placed two feet above the turf and shall be bounded on the western side by a fence not less than six feet high from the ground, formed of close boarding or matting or some other approved material. Such gangway and fence shall be constructed and maintained during the races by the tenants to the satisfaction of the Building Authority."

As far as you know were these conditions of sale carried out by the lessees except, perhaps, that one prohibiting gambling?—As far as I know, yes. I have never heard anything to the contrary.

By Mr. Gedge—The sites of the matcheds were Crown land. The Jockey Club had nothing to do with them. The Club simply bought the right to erect matcheds on sites Nos. 1, 2, and 3 at public auction. As far as his recollection served, the Jockey Club had bought such rights for several years.

By Leo d'Almada—The conditions of letting, he believed, were first drawn up by the Director of Public Works. The conditions were approved as for this year.

Has any one to pass the stands after the erection?—I don't know.

The Coroner—That question might be put to Mr. Wright later.

Mr. Leo d'Almada—With deference, I think the Director of Public Works should be here to answer these questions.

The Coroner—I will see later.

By Mr. Lo—The sites were first put up for public auction in 1901 when the applications became too numerous. At that time there were 20 sites and far more than that number of applicants for them.

Previously permits were given without charge but it was thought that public auction would be a fairer way of deciding who should have the sites.

What was the reason for the change in Condition No. 6 of the letting conditions?—Prior to 1912 the conditions only provided for the protection of putting greens, but I believe the situation of the sites was then slightly altered and the whole of the area was required to be protected. I do not know the reason.

Previous to 1912 it was considered necessary only to protect the putting green—a very small area. Subsequently to that year it was thought necessary to protect the whole site. What was the reason?—I don't know.

Can you tell me who does?—The Director of Public Works.

The Coroner—It seems to me that the reason was to protect the ground.

Mr. Lo—I think if the Director of Public Works thought it necessary to protect the ground in this way, he would consider how far a board placed over the whole site would affect the safety of the stands. (Addressing Mr. Wood)—In 1912 when it was considered necessary to protect this greater area was the question of the stability of the stands considered at all?—I cannot say.

Who can say?—The Director of Public Works.

The Crown Solicitor—I would suggest that the Director of Public Works be asked to attend.

The Coroner concurred.

Mr. d'Almada—Were these conditions advertised at all in the Government Gazette or in the newspapers?—I don't think so.

They were simply sent to the auctioneers?—Yes, I think so.

Mr. F. C. Mason Hurley, of Messrs. Hughes & Hough, Government auctioneers, said on January 7th he received instructions from the P.W.D. to put up for auction the sites for the matcheds on the Race-course. He was instructed that the conditions of letting would be the same as those of last year. The sale was advertised in all the English newspapers and in four Chinese newspapers.

The names of the purchasers of the various sites were then produced in Court by the Crown Solicitor but the witness stated that the list differed slightly from his own list.

The Coroner—Can you give us the names of the purchasers?—A request was made that some of the names might not be divulged.

According to the list produced the purchasers of the sites were:—

Nos. 1, 2, & 3—Jockey Club,
" 4, 5 & 6—Unity,
" 7—Xavier,
" 8—Remedios,
" 9—Richie,
" 10—Chan Sui Tong,
" 11—Cheong Lee,
" 12—Lok Kee,
" 13—Kwong Kee,
" 14—Yau Kee,
" 15—Aoi,
" 16—Ah Man,
" 18 & 19—Ah On.

Mr. Bowley—Who are the purchasers of Nos. 4, 5, and 6?—J. Blake.

Do you know these purchasers, or most of them?—No. My compradore does.

He deals with the Chinese purchasers.

You accept firm names without ascertaining who the individuals are?—Yes, that is the custom.

You have no means of informing us who are the individuals buying sites under Chinese firm names?—No.

Mr. Leo d'Almada—Before the auction in 1912 the conditions are read out? These conditions are in the hands of the intending purchasers two weeks before the sale.

The Coroner—Were they read out?—With the exception of Clauses 5 and 6 the conditions were taken as read. Clauses 5 and 6 were read in English and Chinese.

Mr. Leo d'Almada—After the purchase has been made you fill up a certificate and sign it yourself?—Yes.

And the purchaser goes to the P.W.D. and gets a permit?—I take it so.

The only instructions he would receive from you would be to go to the P.W.D. before the auction anyone present is invited to ask questions regarding the conditions of sale.

The enquiry was then adjourned for time.

Mr. F. Sutton, Land Surveyor of the Public Works Department, was the first witness called in the afternoon. He said for the race meeting this year he had the plan produced given to him, and he pegged out the sites according to that plan. He did not peg out the sites in the presence of the purchasers. He had no connection whatever with the selling of the sites.

Mr. Bowley—Did you inspect the matcheds during or after erection?—No.

The Coroner—They were inspected by another officer of the Department, I understand.

Mr. Bowley—Is it your duty to see that the sites are erected properly?—It has nothing to do with my duty to see that they are erected on the right lines, according to your pegging?—No.

Mr. d'Almada—Apart from pegging out the sites you had nothing to do with the matter at all?—Nothing at all.

You received no instructions for anything more?—No.

The chief photographer of the firm of Messrs. Mee Cheung then produced the photographs he had taken of the disaster. He said on February 26th, before the fifth race, he was near the winning post. He was preparing to take a photograph when he heard the booths collapsing with a sound like crackers. He saw the stands coming down, and soon after the collapse, fire started. He sent his son to find his people and he commenced to take photographs in front of the Portuguese booth. This was between 2.45 and 3 o'clock. From the time he heard the noise until the time he took the first photograph there was a lapse of one or two minutes only. After taking four photographs he felt the heat very much and went again near the winning post. He had no photographs which did not show the existence of fire. He did not see distinctly where the fire started, but in his opinion it started in the centre. He saw white smoke ten seconds after he saw the collapse. From the time he first saw the stands giving way until the time all collapsed it was about five seconds.

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY.

Mr. A. E. Wright, executive engineer in charge of the Buildings Ordinance Office, said he had heard the evidence with regard to the terms of letting these sites. When a lot was sold the purchaser obtained his certificate from the auctioneer. On production of that certificate in his office he issued a permit—one for each person. The usual procedure was adopted this year. He did not actually know the persons who applied for permits. He believed the purchasers themselves, or their representatives, came for them, but he was not sure. Twelve out of the thirteen permits issued this year were available. The missing one was issued to Mr. Chan Sui Tong. The form of permit had been in use for many years; it was a miscellaneous permit. A matched building with the meaning of the Ordinance. He was not of the opinion that it came under the heading of an exceptional building to which special reference was made in the Ordinance. No plans of the matcheds were deposited with the Buildings Office under Section 222 of the Ordinance, nor were the plans of any matcheds ever so deposited. None of the requirements of Section 222 had been complied with as far as matcheds were concerned. In his opinion, after speaking with the Crown Solicitor, the provisions of Section 222 should have been complied with by the purchasers. On the permit issued it was stated that the permission was subject to the terms of the Buildings Ordinance. The erection of the matcheds was supervised by Building Inspectors. The Inspector was notified of the issue of a permit and it was his duty to make such inspections as he considered fit, subject to witness' direction. There was no special Inspector for matcheds. In general, matcheds received very little attention, but, of course, that did not apply to the matcheds at the Race-course. The Inspector of the division including the Race-course was Mr. C. Sara, and witness had instructed him at least three times to inspect the matcheds erected at Happy Valley and he had returned a report of carrying out such inspections. Witness had not inspected the matcheds personally. No instructions were given to the builders, nor, as far as he was aware, was any information asked or given regarding the numbers to be accommodated. Beyond the actual inspection there were no tests made officially as to the stability of the erections. So far as he knew no instructions were given regarding cooking arrangements and as far as he was previously aware, no cooking was carried on under the matcheds. It was certainly not a safe thing to allow cooking under such conditions. The Inspector had no instructions to inspect during the races; he inspected just prior to the races and submitted his report. He did not think that the condition necessitating the covering of the turf with a board half-an-inch thick would effect the stability of the matcheds. None of the upright posts reached the ground but that made no difference if the sheds were properly built. The only difference would be that it would prevent the matcheds being moved bodily in the case of a typhoon or something of that sort. He did not think that the earthquake shocks could have had the slightest effect on the sheds. He had inspected the ground since the catastrophe but he found no signs of any poles having been inserted in the ground. There were no provisions made with regard to fire or as to the number of exits.

Mr. Bowley—There were no regulations with regard to smoking?—No.

No condition as to the number of people to be accommodated?—No.

No matcheds can be erected in the Colony without the permission of the Building Authority. Are you that authority?—Yes.

I suppose you issue hundreds of matcheds permits in the course of the year?—Yes.

In this case you gave permits for the erection of matcheds within a nearer distance to another building than is allowed under the Building Ordinance unless special permission has been obtained?—Yes. I take it that under these particular permits that permission is granted. I do not say that I had specific instructions.

Is the object of that condition to minimize the risk of fire?—I believe so.

Regulation three provides that applicants for permission to erect matcheds shall give the proposed dimensions of such matcheds. Was that condition enforced in this case?—Yes. I think I may say so because we have the plans. Matcheds have more than one dimension?—All dimensions are shown on the plans.

The Coroner—That scarcely answers the question. The applicants did not comply with this condition by supplying the proposed dimensions of the matcheds?—No.

Mr. Bowley—Was no limitation whatever put on the height of these buildings?—No.

There is no regulation as to the length or thickness of the poles?—No.

Or as to the distance between the poles?—No.

Mr. Bowley then asked to see the paper which Mr. Wright had containing certain memoranda and it was noted that on February 4th someone had minutes in the Buildings Ordinance Office for a careful supervision to be made of the matcheds on the Race-course.

Mr. Bowley continuing—How long has Mr. Sara been in the P.W.D.?—Four or five years.

What are his qualifications?—I should be glad for him to be called. He can explain for himself. He was sent out from Home specially for the work upon which he is engaged.

Mr. Sara reported to you regarding these matcheds upon several occasions?—In his diary and verbally. On Monday morning, February 25th, I asked him about the inspection and he told me he had gone round on Saturday morning and was quite satisfied with all of them.

In his previous reports to you had he reported any irregularity in construction?—No, the reports were satisfactory in all cases.

You consider Mr. Sara a reliable officer?—Yes.

You have been in the Department for how many years?—Fifteen.

Since when have you been in charge of buildings?—Since 1911. I was acting in charge on two occasions before.

Do you know the matched contractor, Si Hock?—Not personally. I know the firm.

Is it to your knowledge the creator of a large number of matcheds in the Colony?—On, yes, an enormous number. Does he also erect an enormous amount of scaffolding?—Yes.

Is it your duty to control theatres and all pieces of amusement?—Yes, as far as the buildings are concerned. We license and inspect.

You are familiar with the regulations made with regard to theatres?—Yes. They contain elaborate provisions for gangways, doorways, staircases, etc. they do.

And also with regard to fire precautions?—Yes.

Do you issue permits for Chinese matcheds theatres?—Yes.

Do you insist on the regulations with regard to gangways and fire appliances?—No.

None of them?—No.

I think no temporary building can be used as a theatre until you give a certificate. It is so in the regulations. My impression is that we have been advised legally that matcheds do not come under such a provision. As far as Chinese matcheds are concerned we issue a matched permit. No licence is issued at all. I think this question came up once but I am not quite sure.

The Coroner—Can you make a statement in regard to that Mr. Wakenham?—The Crown Solicitor—I never heard about it before.

The Coroner—It is a new point. Perhaps you can look it up.

The Crown Solicitor agreed to do so.

Mr. Bowley continuing—In the light of your present experience do you think it would be better to insist upon the regulations in the future?—I certainly do. I have seen you remember a fire destroying matcheds in Huihoom on New Year's eve—I remember there was a fire there. The matcheds were completely burnt out were they not?—I don't know.

The Coroner—What is the point Mr. Bowley?—Mr. Bowley—I was going to mention a few of the recent matcheds fires.

The Coroner—Oh, yes, we remember there was one at Cheung Shu Wan.

Mr. Bowley continuing—Did it not occur to you, after these fires, that it would be advisable to take special precautions with regard to the races?—No.

Would it not be better to pin down their responsibility?—I don't see that.

Have you calculated the floor space in these matcheds to ascertain the number of people who could be accommodated at one time?—No.

Can you do that?—We have no plans from which we could make such calculations.

With regard to putting the poles into the ground, I think you stated that it would make no difference unless a typhoon might come and move the matcheds bodily. Did you arrive at that conclusion because the poles are cross-braced?—Yes.

So that the more weight you put on the poles, providing the loadings stand, the stronger they are?—No, not quite that.

The more stable they are?—Yes, but there is a limit.

The limit for breaking the poles and loadings. But as long as the poles and loadings do not break it does not matter in the least?—I do not think so.

Have you had any experience of matcheds collapsing during your stay in the Colony?—No. I cannot remember any, except in a typhoon of course.

You cannot give us any figures at present with regard to the accommodation of these matcheds?—No.

The Coroner—What sort of tests can you make with matcheds?—Tests are sometimes made of stands in England with sand bags, but sand bags being dead weight would not be a test against strain in a pole.

By the Coroner—With reference to Section 222 of the Ordinance and the question that the regulations laid down have never been applied to matcheds, you have never had any instructions regarding that point?—No.

Mr. Bowley—Did you see the matcheds at all yourself?—No, not in the completed stage. I was at the race-course one day when they were just being started. That was this year.

Last year did you see the matcheds?—Yes.

I think you are aware of the unity arrangement of the matcheds although they are divided into lots they are practically one matched?—It is usual and I presume it was the same this year.

And you do not object to that form of construction?—No.

Mr. Gedge—Would it be possible for Mr. Wright to have a model made to scale of these matcheds?—No.

The Coroner—Do you think it would help us?

Mr. Gedge—We are having evidence of where certain people were. They could point out the positions.

The Coroner—The witnesses are perfectly familiar with the stands by their numbers.

Mr. Gedge—Different matcheds had different numbers of stories. Some had one story and others more.

The Coroner—If you think it would help us I am quite willing to have it done.

Mr. Gedge—I have three witnesses as to what happened on the Jockey Club stand.

The Coroner—I think it is quite clear. It was suggested that the contractor would be able to make a model and Mr. Wright was asked to report upon the subject this morning.

Mr. Leo d'Almeida—I have no doubt Mr. Bowley's client would be quite prepared to make this model at the expense of the Government.

The remark caused some amusement and the enquiry was then adjourned until this morning at 11 o'clock.

"EXPERIENCES IN THE WAR ZONE."

LECTURE BY DR. SHERWOOD EDDY.

Last evening, Dr. Sherwood Eddy delivered a lecture on "Experiences in the War Zone," at the Theatre Royal. Dr. Eddy has spent a considerable part of the past three years with the British Forces in England, France, Belgium, and Egypt as a special Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. and his valuable services to the Allied cause have been admitted by the British Military leaders. His lecture was interesting and listened to with close attention by a large and representative audience.

H.E. the Governor presided.

Dr. Eddy said:—The great battlefield rises in grim reality before us. Far to the left stands the terrible Ypres salient, so long swept by the tide of war; and away to the right are the blasted woods of "Plug Street." Right before us rises the historic Ridge of Messines, where the British trenches were so long held under a merciless fire. From here to the top of the ridge the ground has been fought over, inch by inch and foot by foot. It is blasted and blackened, deep furrows, scarred and shell-holes, and the trees stand on the bare ridge, stiff and stark, charred and leafless, like lonely sentinels of the dead. The ground, without a blade of grass left, is a target for the enemy's machine guns and snipers. Trenches have been blown into shapless heaps of earth. Deep shell-holes and mine-craters mark the advance. Small villages are left without one stone or brick upon another, mere formless heaps, ground almost to dust.

Above us the very air is full of conflict. Hanging several hundred feet high are half-a-dozen huge fixed balloons, each of these is a target for the attacking aeroplanes, and the occupants must be ready at a moment's notice, to leap into a parachute when they are shot down. High above these balloons a score of British planes are darting about, dashing over the enemy's lines, acting as the eyes of the huge guns hidden away behind us.

At first on the field of battle one thrill at the sound of mighty and unearthly forces loosed, but in the din we suddenly realize that boys are dying all about us. Far behind us, marking the slow advance up this ridge of death, are the sheltered cemeteries of white crosses that tell the price that has already been paid. They are five thousand crowded graves, yonder here alone. Great is the price in its solid weight of agony. This is no longer a war between two people, but between two principles. It is not for a narrow strip of hard-won soil, but for every foot of a world that from henceforth must be free. The men who are fighting on grounds of moral principle would rather pay any price than lie at ease under the false shadow of militarism and materialism. These men are fighting, and many of them know that they are fighting for a new world. Not only are they fighting against German autocracy, and Turkish cruelty, but they are fighting against the materialism that must be purged in the fiery furnace of this war. Its purposes will reach beyond our ken, and though mass alone has caused the war its issue is in the hands of God. The whole is a demonstration of the rule of leaving God out of His world. We speak of the "war of man against man," but what is military might armed and aggressive materialism, deeper principle which lies behind it. And what is materialism but selfishness? Materialism and selfishness are the dangers of our own land as well as of Germany. We ask ourselves: What is the real issue of the war? What are they fighting for? Behind a great conflict between autocracy and democracy, a yet deeper issue. In a last analysis the final question in human life is between a material and a spiritual interpretation of the universe. Whether right makes right and the moral order is supreme. To be a spiritual life. On this is the brute struggle for life; on this, the struggle for the better, the fight for the fittest, and on the other, the fight to make men fit to survive. On the left hand is selfishness and on the right service. There is a final issue in world between passion and principle, between wrong and right, between dark and light, between mammon and God. This ultimate issue must be faced by individuals and by nations. It is the struggle which contains the meaning of the war. "War is the birth-pangs of a new era." A new day dawned for Young Men's Christian Association with the present war. Ninety per cent of former workers left to join the colours but a new army of over thirty thousand men and women was mustered. Anointed within its Huts for the service of the world. The Y.M.C.A. and British soldiers. The Y.M.C.A. suddenly "to think materialism and militarism for a world at war, six months 500 centres were occupied at the end of the first year there were 6, and after two years of the war 10 such centres were in full swing. Trench of operations includes the British Isles, Egypt, the Dardanelles, the Mediterranean ports, India, Mesopotamia, East and South Africa, Australia, and on to the frontiers of Britain's far-flung battle-line.

Here are multitudes of men from home, shut out from the society of all good women, weary and wet, marching and drilling, often lonely, dejected, and in the cheerless barracks, and tempted by the animal passion which is always loosed in wartime, we can measure just what a big man Hut means to these men. The red armband, the gleams across the camp and stands for the three things which most needs. It stands, be first place, as a pledge for supplying physical need of these hungry, and sorely tempted men. The Hut provides for the soldier's intellectual and social needs. The piano and phonograph, the billiard tables, and the (Continued at foot of next page.)

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. S. C. JENKIN, D.P.S. (RESERVE).

SEARCH SUPERVISORS. With reference to Orders of March 4th and 5th, applications for duty as supervisors in connection with the system of searching of Passengers' baggage by Chinese regular police and revenue officers will not be received after Saturday, March 9th.

SECTION PATROLMEN. Instruction as to the duties generally of Section Patrolmen is being issued in the form of a printed page to be inserted as Departmental Order No. 15 (b) in D.O. Book.

supply has been sent to Company Commanders, to whom application must be made for them by Platoon and Section Commanders. The latter will be held responsible for their issue to all ranks.

TRUNCHEONS. Truncheons are being issued at the Equipment Parades now being held to all ranks not previously in possession of same. Patrolmen on duty will, after issue is completed, be required to produce truncheons when parading for duty.

Platoons will report at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m. as follows:— Nos. 3 and 4 Platoons.—Friday, March 8th. Nos. 7 and 8 Platoons.—Tuesday, March 12th. Nos. 5 and 6 Platoons Thursday, March 14th.

Men on duty and therefore unable to attend with their respective units, will attend instead on Friday, March 15th.

AND. Practices will take place at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, March 12th; Friday, March 15th; Tuesday, March 19th; and Friday, March 22nd.

The Clerical Class will take place on Wednesday, March 13th and 20th.

BILLIARD HANDICAP. Entry to the Billiard Handicap competition will be closed on Monday next, the 11th inst. Intending competitors who have not done so will please send in their names together with the entrance fee, \$1, to Staff Inspector Arculli on or before this date.

By Order, T. F. HOUAN, A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant, March 7th.

POSITION OF BAR ISLAND LIGHT ALTERED.

Notice is given that the mast from which Bar Island Light is exhibited has been moved to a position bearing S. 81° E. distant 100 feet from the position formerly occupied. The Light-keeper, who has been moved to a position immediately seaward of the mast. The characteristic of the light, the colour of the hut, etc., are as heretofore.

chess boards, tables for games, library, and reading-room keep him busy, as the course, stimulating lectures, moving pictures, educational classes, and debating societies provide him with rational and mental employment. The far deeper moral and spiritual needs of the soldier are also met. As the evening draws to a close, one sees the secretary in his military uniform stand up on the table; hats are off and heads are bowed at the call for evening prayers, which are held here every night.

He is trying to grasp the colossal facts of the present war. Since the beginning of the conflict there has been a daily attrition of more than 25,000 in killed, wounded or prisoners every twenty-four hours. This does not include those who have perished in the devastated nations. Not less than 6,000,000 men are now in the military prisons of Europe, some of whom have undergone great suffering, both physical and mental. More than 6,000,000 have wounded to-day in the military hospitals, not to speak of several times that number who have been patched up and sent back into the line to face, death again. Nearly 6,000,000 men have been killed. Less than 5,500,000 were killed in the twenty greatest wars of the last century and a quarter, all combined. Already the cost of the war has mounted to over \$100,000,000 gold a day, more than \$100,000 every minute of the twelve hours that the sun shines upon us. The cost of less than one month of the present war would equal that of the entire Franco-Prussian War of 1870. Another month would pay for the whole Russo-Japanese War; twelve days would pay for the Boer War, while the cost for three days would dig the Panama Canal.

Professor Gilbert Murray, of Oxford, writes thus of the magnitude of the men for us: "As for me personally, there is one thought that is always with me—the thought that other men are dying for me, better men, younger, with more hope in their lives, many of whom I have taught and loved. The orthodox Christian will be familiar with the thought of One who loved you dying for you. I would like to say that now, seem to be familiar with the feeling that something innocent, something great, something that loved me, is dying, and is dying daily for me. That is the sort of community we now are—a community in which one man dies for his brother." (Loud and prolonged applause.)

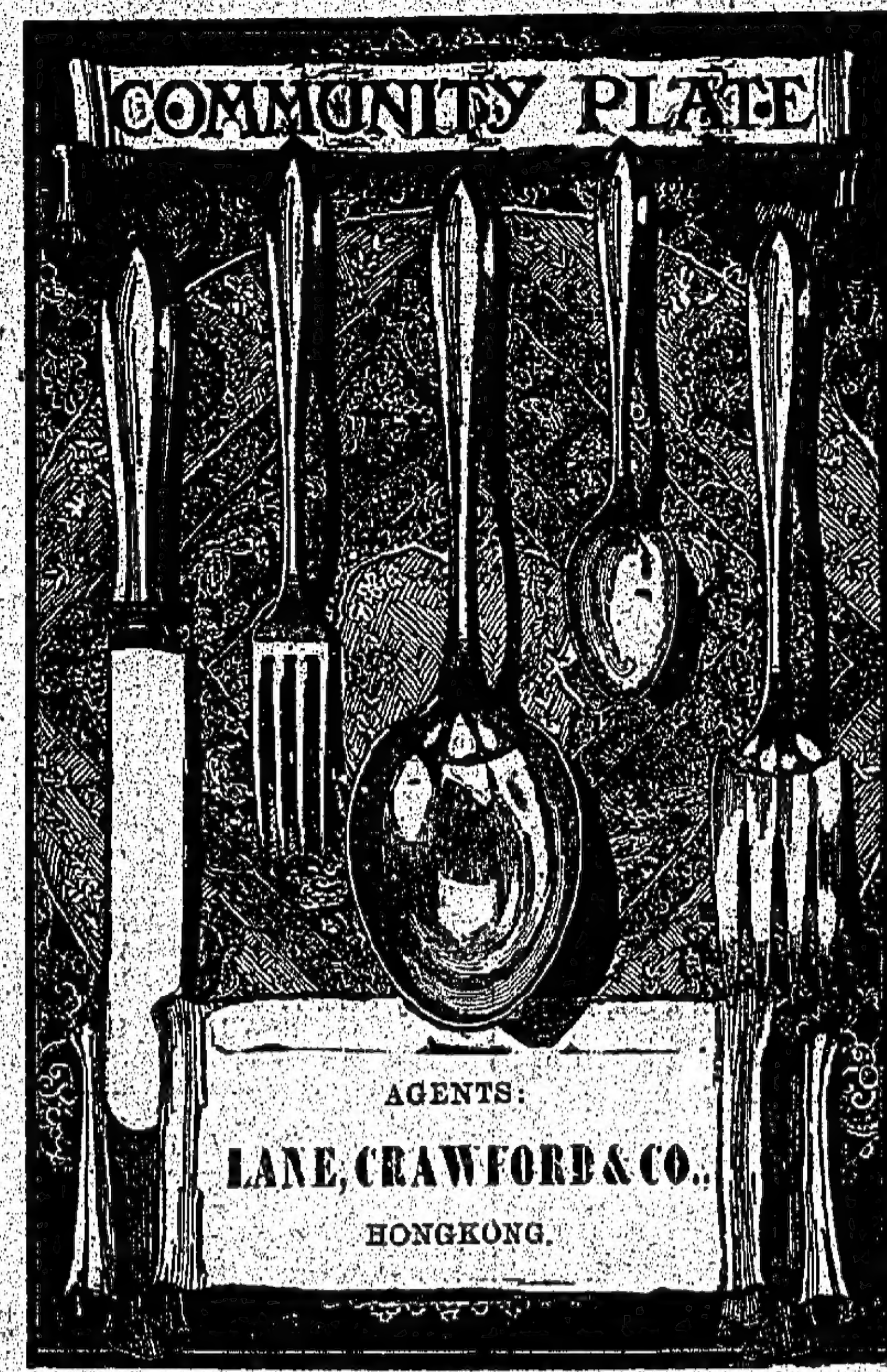
At the conclusion of the lecture, His Excellency proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Eddy. In doing so he said:— "Gentlemen—We have listened with admiration to the most eloquent lecture of Dr. Eddy. His burning words have made us realize the splendid work that the Y.M.C.A. is doing and will continue to do in the near future in France and elsewhere, where this terrible war is being waged. I think we, one and all, realize that now that the British Empire and the United States—representing the Anglo-Saxon race—stand shoulder to shoulder in this fight, we can confidently and patiently look forward to a triumphant end. (Applause.) I thank you, Dr. Eddy, in the name of the meeting, for your splendid lecture, and I call upon those present to give cheers in the British way, taking the time from me.

This was done and the meeting closed.

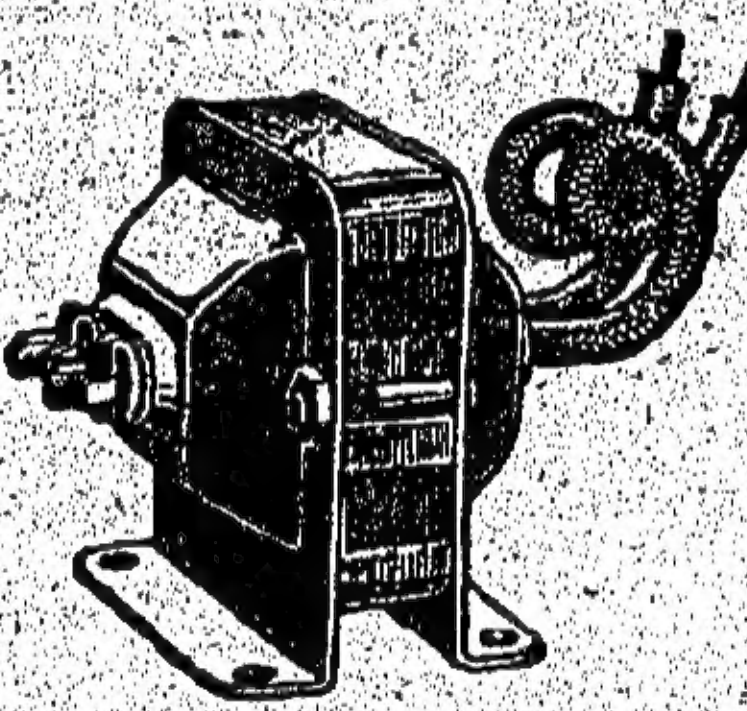
Other Local News will be found on Page 2.

INTIMATIONS

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HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

It has been decided to hold the **FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW** at the **BOTANICAL GARDENS** instead of the City Hall.
The Show will be open from 9 to 6 p.m. on **THURSDAY** and **FRIDAY**, the 14th and 15th March.
Exhibitors are requested to note that the hours for staging Exhibits will be as already advertised.

H. B. L. DOWBIGGIN,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1918. [1751]

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on **SATURDAY**, the 23rd day of March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.
The **TRANSFER BOOKS** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from the 13th to 27th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1918. [1768]

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PURCHASERS OF PARIMUTUEL TICKETS on the fifth Race, Second Day, for Cash Sweep, Places and Winners, also Cash Sweep ticket holders, of following Races can obtain a refund on production of their tickets at the Office of the Hongkong Jockey Club, on the Ground Floor of the **HONGKONG CLUB ANNEXE, CHATER ROAD**, between the hours of 3.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. on **MONDAY**, 4th March, 1918, until 26th March (Saturdays and Sundays excepted).
HOLDERS OF UNPAID WINNING TICKETS (Cash Sweeps, Places and Winners) will also be paid at the same place and between the same hours as stated above on production of their tickets.
LOWE, RINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Accountants to the
Hongkong Jockey Club.
[1717]

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY (British Section).

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that accommodation for First Class Passengers will be provided on the **GOODES TRAIN** leaving Kowloon at 12 Noon on **SATURDAY**, 9th instant, calling at Taro and Shingun Shui.

By Order,
H. P. WINSLOW,
Manager.
Kowloon, 6th March, 1918. [1741]

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Firm of **A. R. MARTY, Rensselaire, Successor**, has as from the 12th February, 1918, sold to Messrs. **P. A. LAPICQUE & Co.**, the S.S. "HANOI" which insures the Postal Service between Hongkong and Haiphong, and also the right to use the name of **A. R. MARTY, Compagnie de Navigation Tonkinoise**.
The business will hereafter be carried on by Messrs. **P. A. LAPICQUE & Co.**, No. 4, Queen's Building, Telephone No. 950.
P. A. LAPICQUE & Co.,
MAISON, A. R. MARTY,
Rensselaire, Successor.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918. [1740]

NATIONAL LOAN OF THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC (1914).

SUBSCRIBERS to the above LOAN are hereby notified that redemption of the **BONDS DRAWN** on 26th February last will begin on 1st March, 1918.
Payment in cash or its equivalent will be made at the **BANK OF CHINA** and **BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS** or any of the Branches of the above Banks and also at the Shanghai Office of the **HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION**.
Any bond of which the following are the two terminal numbers, namely, 93, 14, 23, 26, 47, 51, 53, 57, 77, 86, 93, is a **Drawn Bond**.
P. A. AGLEY,
Inspector General of Customs.
1727

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

Action No. 395 of 1918.
Between **IP KAN KI**, Plaintiff
and
KU PING NAM, trading as the **KWONG CHEUNG HING LAM**, Defendant.

CHEUNG FONG LAI, Manager of **The Tung On Shek Pao Dealers' Guild**, of No. 240, Des Voeux Road, West, Victoria, Hongkong,
Garnishes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a **WRIT OF FORFEITURE ATTACHMENT** was issued herein on the 28th day of February, 1918, returnable on the 15th day of March, 1918.
Dated the 28th day of February, 1918.
LO & LO,
Solicitors for the Plaintiff.
[1711]

INTIMATIONS

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), the 9th March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.
The **TRANSFER BOOKS** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from **TUESDAY**, the 5th March, 1918, until **SATURDAY**, the 9th March, 1918, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 27th February, 1918. [1713]

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on **SATURDAY**, the 23rd day of March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and declaring a Dividend.

The **TRANSFER BOOKS** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from **THURSDAY**, the 14th March, 1918, until **SATURDAY**, the 23rd March, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918. [1743]

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Foster's Street, on **WEDNESDAY**, the 27th March, at 11.30 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.
The **TRANSFER BOOKS** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from the 14th to 27th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918. [1747]

HONGKONG CLUB

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-SECOND YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the **HONGKONG CLUB** will be held in the Club House, on **MONDAY**, the 18th March, 1918, at 5.30 p.m.

By Order,
E. DES VOEUX,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1918. [1730]



NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the **GENERAL POSTS** between the hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce **Passports or Identification papers**.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the **REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1915**.
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

STRAITS MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD.

DISPENSARY Buildings, Raffles Place, Singapore, are **HONORARY AGENTS** of the **IMPERIAL MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD**, whose subscription are received, new Members are enrolled and all Members are welcomed as Visitors during their stay in port.

WANTED.

EUROPEAN OVERSEER for about three months to supervise Reinforced Concrete Work. Wages \$300 per month.
Apply by letter with copies of testimonials to—
Messrs. LITTLE, ADAMS & WOOD,
Shamone, Canton.
[1744]

WANTED.

A T the FRANK for a little girl of 3 1/2 years resident **EUROPEAN NURSE**.
Apply—
Box No. 26,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1686]

WANTED COMPANION-GOVERNESS.

ENGLISH LADY in Malay States requires in March a European Companion-Governess for her daughter aged fourteen. Usual English, good French, and Music; to accompany family later in the year to New Zealand and thence to England as soon as permitted; must be energetic and good traveler, age 25-35 years. Salary \$100 per annum and all found. All passage monies paid.
Apply fully by letter with copies of testimonials and photograph to
Box No. "1318,"
care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1728]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

No. 15, BURBOW STREET, Wanchai, ONE GARDEN.
Apply to—

LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
2nd Floor Alexandra Buildings.
[30]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry, Four very desirable **SHOPS**, situated in 1st House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—

THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
44, Connaught Road Central.
[1608]

TO LET.

OFFICES in York Buildings
HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., Ltd.
[168]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
Apply to—

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings.
[1628]

WANTED.

TWO or THREE LARGE OFFICE ROOMS in Central Locality. First floor preferred.
Apply to—

TONG SENG & Co.,
18, Queen's Road Central.
[1687]

FOR SALE.

TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 155, Peak.
Apply—

DUNCAN CLARK,
Care of LANE, CHEAMFORD & Co.
[1711]

FOR SALE.

PIANO, excellent condition, half cost.
Apply—

PIANO,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1742]

FOR SALE.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS (all different).
1000 Stamps \$ 8.00 | 2500 Stamps \$ 50.00
1500 " 18.00 | 3000 " 100.00
1600 " 22.00 | 4000 " 175.00
2000 " 25.00 |
GRACE & Co.,
No. 1, WILKINSON STREET,
HONGKONG.
[1516]

DAIRY FARM NEWS

SAUSAGES!

SAUSAGES!

A Variety
to suit all tastes

OXFORD SAUSAGES

CAMBRIDGE "

PORK "

BEEF "

LIVER "

BOLOGNA, HEAD CHEESE

BLACK PUDDING.

WHITE "

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INTIMATION

WATSON'S HYGIENOL

HIGHLY CONCENTRATED AND

PERFECTLY SAFE

DISINFECTANT.

THE BEST PREVENTATIVE OF

INFECTIOUS AND

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

SOLD ONLY BY

J. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

1 TELEPHONE 616.

DEATH.

AT the Kennedy Town Hospital, on March 7th, **AMY MARCH**, Burrow, dearly beloved wife of **Norman L. Bailton**, aged 45.
Funeral will pass the Monument at 10 a.m. to-day. [1749]

Hongkong Office: 10a, Des Voeux Road, C.
London Office: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 8th MARCH, 1918.

PEACE TALK.

INDICATED by the chorus of condemnation greeted his first letter on the subject, peace, Lord Lansdowne has indicated a second upon his fellow-countrymen. While it is impossible to question his intentions, we cannot help recall that "much evil is wrought by vain thought as well as by want of heart. A patriotic Englishman could not, it seems to us, have done a greater disservice to the Empire as this critical moment than the people, suffering from the strain of more than three years' war, need encouragement to maintain and intensify their efforts in order that the prodigious sacrifices already made may prove to have been in vain. The success achieved by the enemy on the Eastern front—achieved, be it remembered, by force of arms but by intrigues added very considerably to the duties of the task which the Allies have set themselves to perform and banish the prospect of any early end of the strife. At such a time, when the heart apt to feel sick with hope longed, it is the duty of every publicist to do all that he can to steel the nerves of the nation and its Allies against insidious schemes of the enemy escape the penalty of their crimes throwing the apple of discord among those arrayed against them. Invincibly she believed her Army to be, Gay has never trusted her fate entirely, but has spent millions of money influence opinion all over the world, doing this she had a four-fold object: to enlist the sympathy of new; to undermine the loyalty of those of British rule and thereby prevent full resources of the Empire from being employed against her; to sow suspicion and distrust amongst the Allies; and finally, to stimulate to

greater activity the pacifists who are to be found in every nation. That she has met with a considerable measure of success in this direction cannot be denied. Neutral, whose rights she has not respected have shown a remarkable degree of forbearance, impatient risings have occurred here and there in the British Empire, Russia has been deceived as to the motives of her Allies, a part of the Italian Army has been seduced from its allegiance to the flag, and those in favour of a parchment peace in England have become more vocal. The overwhelming mass of the people are undoubtedly sound to the core and inflexibly resolved that there shall never be a repetition of the horrors of this war. Naturally, they long ardently for peace, but they insist that it shall be a just and enduring peace. The pacifists seek to remove this obstacle to their aims by pointing out that the rulers of Germany know that their ambitious dreams of conquest can never materialise, and that long before Germany can recover from the effects of the present conflict the suffering masses will have cast off the yoke of the militarists and taken the control of affairs into their own hands. Why, then, prolong the agony through which the world is passing? It is a plausible argument calculated to appeal to the war-weary when they are being asked to make increased sacrifices in order to meet the augmented forces of the Central Powers, and undoubtedly it gains weight when an ex-Minister of the Crown, who has held many offices including that of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, advocates "a small informal meeting of authorised persons, not plenipotentiaries," to hold preliminary peace conversations. It is not necessary to discuss in detail the reasons which lead Lord Lansdowne to tender this advice, because they entirely ignore the real issue, which is whether Germany is to be allowed to go unpunished for her manifold crimes and left in a position to renew her aggressive designs whenever the time seems propitious. With Germany's interpretation of a "democratic peace" without annexations or indemnities confronting us in Russia, what sane person can be expected to attach any importance to Count Hertling's qualified acceptance of the four basic principles of peace enunciated by President Wilson? Those principles are capable of widely different applications, and Count Hertling's proviso that "they must be universally recognised" has a significance that nobody who reads his references to Ireland, Egypt, and India can possibly misunderstand. The insincerity that characterises every line of the German Chancellor's speech has been thoroughly exposed by Mr. Balfour. Germany has everything to gain and nothing to lose by provoking these discussions. Of this, however, we may be sure—Germany will never subscribe to any peace-terms acceptable to the Allies so long as it is in her power to resist them. The only peace worthy of the name will be won by fighting and not by talking.

The following are prohibited from being imported into Amoy:—Furs, skins, hair, rags, old clothes, old beddings, old gunny bags, old paper, fresh fruits, vegetables, plants, earth mould and coffins containing a corpse.

Members of the Society St. George, Hongkong, are reminded that the annual subscription of \$2 is now due for 1918. It will facilitate accounts and assist the Hon. Treasurer if subscriptions are sent as soon as possible to Mr. J. H. Ramsay, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, so that they are received before the arrangements for St. George's Day Celebrations occupy the attention of the Committee.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS
[TRANSMISSION BY THE CHINA TELEGRAPH CO.]
THE FUTURE OF BRITISH TRADE WITH CHINA.
London, March 6th.
Reviewing the position of British trade with China in the *Times* Trade Supplement, Professor Middleton Smith, referring to the cry that the day of the comprador is over, points out that the sons of compradors, often well-educated, have founded their own businesses. They will import direct and will profoundly influence the industrial development of China.
Prof. Middleton Smith is of opinion that one result of the *Entente* will be that Great Britain and France will have a common commercial policy for South China. China's action in joining the Allies may be the beginning of a new era

CORRESPONDENCE.

"ST. GEORGE'S DAY."

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—Although the 23rd April is still some weeks distant, we should be obliged if you will be good enough to allow space in your columns for the following.

Many reasons will occur to your readers why War Charities should be wholeheartedly supported. A letter to *The Times*, dated October, 1917, from Mr. R. A. Hudson, Chairman of the "Our Day" Finance Committee, sets out briefly the following six valid reasons:—

(1.)—Because there is no man or woman who would not wish to lend a hand to the wounded soldier if he or she knew how to.

(2.)—Because the Red Cross can do collectively what we would each wish to do individually.

(3.)—Because the work costs £6 a minute, and of every sovereign we received in 1918 only 7d. was spent on administrative expenses.

(4.)—Because, taking the 41 weeks since last New Year's Day, we have received on an average £20,000 a week less than we have spent.

(5.)—Because, if this went on, instead of developing and extending our work, some of it would have to be closed down.

(6.)—Because each one of us ought to resolve to make that an impossibility.

A special effort is being made on St. George's Day to swell Red Cross and other War Charity funds. It has been suggested that a number of residents and visitors may be leaving the Colony before the 23rd April who would be wishful to subscribe to the funds being raised. This is also the season, when dividends and bonuses are being paid, and, as many show an increase, no doubt an already generous community will be anxious and willing to earmark some for so good a cause. A list is, therefore, being started to be called "St. George's Day" Fund. Donations thereto will be gratefully received by Mr. J. H. Ramsay, Hon. Treasurer, care of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and duly acknowledged in the papers. Thanking you.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THE STREET COLLECTING COMMITTEE,
ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO"]

CANTON, March 7th.

LUNG'S GUNBOAT REPORTED CAPTURED.

It is said that the Commander of the gunboat *Wing-Fung* has reported that while patrolling the On Po waters, (off Yeung-Kong) a gunboat, which was flying General Lung's flag, was fired at and ordered to stop. She was searched and captured.

THE YOUNG-KONG FRONT.

General Lung's troops have occupied some of the districts adjacent to Yeung-Kong. Most of the Cantonese armies are short of ammunition.

SUNAN AFFAIRS.

Tam Ho-ming, the Chief Commander, has reported that a man, disguised as one of his bodyguards, entered Headquarters with arms and was arrested. He is now detained pending inquiries.

Tam Ho-ming reports that Northern troops in Ao-chow suddenly attacked the Southern lines yesterday.

THE FIRST SQUADRON.

General Luk Wing-tung has ordered the Commander of the 1st Squadron to send gunboats to bar the entrance of the East river as it is the main route for the troops sent by General Lung to attack Kong-moon and the adjacent districts.

The majority of the Naval leaders are in favour of finishing the task undertaken by the late Admiral Ching and of sending gunboats to assist the expeditionary force to attack Fukien.

General Lung has wired to the Peking Government stating that it is time for the Government to get back the Squadron into its control, and appoint a new Admiral to take charge of the ships.

LESE MAJESTE "NOT PROVED."

On purchasing a diary at a book shop at Schwetzer, in West Prussia, Charles Davis, an Englishman, who had been permitted to leave the Rullshen internment camp to work for a relative at Schwetzer, found on the title page with the Kaiser's portrait on one side and a school timetable on the other, remarking: "That's not wanted here; that can come out." The result was a prosecution before the Grand Criminal Court on a charge of displaying anti-German sentiments. Davis asserted that he had not torn out the page on account of the Kaiser's portrait, but on account of the timetable. The Court confirmed the Lower Court's acquittal, holding that the intention of an anti-German demonstration was not proved.

THE WAR.

THE SUBMARINE MENACE. FIRST LORD'S APPEAL TO SHIPMASTERS.

MERCANTILE CRUISER TORPEDOED IN THE IRISH CHANNEL.

CENTRAL POWERS AND ROUMANIA. PRELIMINARY PEACE TREATY SIGNED.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ROUMANIA, CENTRAL POWERS AND GERMANY.

NEGOTIATIONS TO COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY.

LONDON, March 6th.

A wireless German official message states:—Peace negotiations with Roumania commence immediately.

PRELIMINARY TREATY SIGNED.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.

A telegram from Bukharest states that Roumania and the Central Powers signed a preliminary peace treaty last night.

EARLIER CABLES.

CONDITIONS ACCEPTED BY ROUMANIA.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.

A message from Sofia states that M. Tontcheff, the Bulgarian Peace Delegate, who has returned from Bukharest for instructions as regards the new questions that have arisen, stated in the Sobranje that the conditions which the Roumanians had accepted included the cession of the Dobruja and the readjustment of the frontier between Hungary and Roumania, and also economic concessions. Roumania had been informed that she must sign by March 6th a preliminary treaty embodying the aforementioned terms, upon which the negotiations would be resumed with a view to the conclusion of a final peace.

LATEST CABLES.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE.

VARIED EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.

The conclusion of peace with Russia has evoked no particular excitement in Berlin and elsewhere.

The German and Press comments so far are in nowise unanimously jubilant.

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine* thinks the most significant feature of the Treaty is the evidence that Germany, by her concessions, worked only for peace by understanding and conciliation.

The *Varuwaer* calls upon the German Socialists to take up the fight and prevent the new neighbouring States from being treated as subjugated.

The *Muenchenerpost*, on the contrary, declares that the proposals must be materially altered at a general conclusion of peace.

This also is the view of the Dutch Press, the *Catholie Tyd* remarking that the Treaty testifies the German bad faith.

The Vienna Press rejoices in a new era in Europe and considers it a most important feature that there is no common Austro-Russian frontier.

The Paris *Temps* says it is the duty of the Allies to declare the Treaty null and void.

PETROGRAD, March 6th.

The Government Press declares peace was signed in order give the Revolution a respite for a re-assembly of fresh forces to fight imperialism.

It is announced that a Supreme Military Council of Defence has been formed, and a decree orders the arming of the entire people.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

RUSSO-AUSTRO-GERMAN FIGHT- ING CONTINUES.

LONDON, March 6th.

A wireless Russian report states:—General Krylenko has sent a message to the Austro-German Army Chief complaining that the troops are still fighting at Jamburg, Orsha and Komelbriansk, and enquiring whether a cessation of hostilities has been ordered.

BRITISH INTERESTS.

LONDON, March 6th.

The *Times* Correspondent at Petrograd states that the Dutch Legation takes charge of British interests.

STRANDED FOREIGN REFUGEES.

Fifteen hundred foreign refugees, including many English, are stranded at Petrozavodsk, Lake Onega, en route to the Murman Coast, as the Finland route is closed.

FAMINE IN THE CAPITAL.

The food scarcity at Petrograd now amounts to a famine. Two-thirds of the shops are closed.

EVACUATION OF CAPITAL.

PETROGRAD, March 6th.

Apparently the Government has resolved to evacuate Petrograd and establish State institutions at Moscow, Nijni-Novgorod and at Kazan.

The Foreign Affairs and Roads Ministries are already leaving.

The population is also hastily departing by road in all sorts of vehicles.

MEETING OF SHIPPING FEDERATION.

LONDON, March 6th.

At a meeting of the Shipping Federation, Lord Inchcape said the people did not realise the rate at which our tonnage was being sunk.

Sir John Ellerman said the whole output of ships since the war had not replaced the losses.

NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS AS MINISTERS.

LONDON, March 6th.

The *Morning Post* states that Mr. Lloyd George lengthily privately addressed the Unionist War Committee last night in defence of his appointment of newspaper proprietors to ministerial posts.

The committee heartily passed a vote of thanks to the Premier.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

ENEMY WHARVES AT HOBOKEN.

WASHINGTON, March 6th.

President Wilson has requested legislative authority to take over the Hamburg-America and North-German Lloyd wharves at Hoboken.

A NECESSARY PRECAUTION.

NEW YORK, March 6th.

The War Department has decided that officers and men of enemy nationality in the American army will not be permitted to serve on the battle-fronts.

BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONERS.

LONDON, March 6th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Steel Maitland stated that the Government was considering the question of creating a fourth Trade Commissioner in Canada, also the appointment of a Trade Commissioner in East Africa, and one in one of the other Crown Colonies or Protectorates.

GERMANS LAND ON AALAND ISLANDS.

LONDON, March 6th.

A wireless German official report states:—In pursuance with Finland's request for assistance, German troops have been landed on the Aaland Islands.

THE GRAVEL AND SAND DISPUTE.

THE HAGUE, March 6th.

The Foreign Office announces that Germany has refused to permit the proposed commission of experts to investigate the sand question to enter Belgium, "under the present circumstances," but agrees provisionally to refrain from sending materials through Holland.

KAISER'S GRATITUDE.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.

The Kaiser has telegraphed to the King of Saxony, expressing his "deepest satisfaction and gratitude towards God and the army which extorted peace from Russia."

BRITISH SHIPPING.

LONDON, March 6th.

The Admiralty reports the arrivals for the week as 2,015, and the sailings 2,209. Twelve vessels over and six under 1,000 tons were sunk, and six were unsuccessfully attacked.

SIBERIAN SITUATION.

CHINA FULLY CO-OPERATING.

LONDON, March 6th.

The *Daily Mail's* Tientsin Correspondent states:—The Chinese Cabinet has decided upon the fullest co-operation with Japan, and is sending Delegates to Japan to consult the military authorities.

Disturbing reports have been received from the border provinces of the activities of German intriguers.

EARLIER CABLES.

AMERICA AGREES WITH ALLIES.

NEW YORK, March 6th.

The Associated Press at Washington states that the United States agrees with Japan, Great Britain, and the other Allies regarding the principle of action in Siberia, but the details remain to be worked out.

PLACES UNDER BOLSHEVIKS' CONTROL.

TOKIO, March 6th.

It is credibly reported that Blagovest, chensk, Irkutsk, Khabarovsk and Omsk are now completely in the hands of the Bolsheviks.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

WAR EXPENDITURE.

WASHINGTON, March 6th.

The United States' cost of the war during the past ten months was \$7,100,000,000, over half of which was lent to the Allies.

The war expenditure is increasing at the rate of over \$100,000,000 monthly, but is still below the official estimates.

DEPORTATION OF ALIENS ORDERED.

The Secretary of Labour has ordered the arrest and deportation of all aliens proved to have been spreading sabotage and anarchy on the Pacific Coast and the North-West, whether they are members of the Industrial Workers of the World organisation or not.

DEATH OF A GREAT IRISHMAN.

DEATH DUE TO OPERATION AND HEART-FAILURE.

LONDON, March 6th.

Mr. John Redmond is dead.

LATE.

Mr. John Redmond died from the effects of a severe operation, owing to an intestinal obstruction. His condition improved, but heart-failure supervened.

[The deceased was born at Waterford in 1851, and was the son of the late Mr. W. A. Redmond, M.P. for Ballinacorney. Educated at Trinity College, Dublin, he later entered the Civil Service. At the age of 30 he was elected a Member of Parliament for New Ross, as a Nationalist, and from 1885 to 1891 sat for North Wexford. He was called to the English Bar in 1886 and to the Irish Bar in the following year. He was chosen chairman of the United Irish Party in 1900 in which capacity he acted till his death. He enjoyed the highest reputation of his time. The death of the great orator of his time, Major William Redmond, M.P., was a great blow to the deceased gentleman.]

THE SUBMARINE MENACE. MEDITERRANEAN REGARDED BY U-BOATS AS A "REST CURE."

LONDON, March 6th.

In the concluding portion of the speech with which he introduced the Naval Estimates into the House of Commons, Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty, reiterated his former statement that the submarine menace was "held but not yet mastered." Submarines were being destroyed in increasing numbers, and he was confident that the destruction would continue to increase. He knew that the German submarine crews were becoming growingly reluctant to put to sea, especially those operating in the North Sea, North Atlantic, and the Channel. The chances of submarines in those waters returning home were about one in four, and recently the British and American naval forces had been sinking submarines in Home waters as fast as they were being built.

Great Britain and her Allies were now able to devote more attention to the Mediterranean, which had been regarded by the North Sea submarine commanders as "a rest cure." (Cheers.)

The enemy continued increasingly to congest the tonnage sunk in order to harrier the people.

The losses of convoys continued to be low. The enemy was often assisted by insufficient precautions as regards lights on ships. Absolutely complete darkness was essential for protection.

Sir Eric Geddes added that the submarines were increasingly operating inshore, thus giving increasing opportunities to patrol craft and air craft to attack them, and enabling a greater amount of salvage to be performed.

Sir Eric concluded by paying a warm tribute to the Navy and Mercantile Marine, especially the destroyers and escorting craft. The Navy, he declared, was indeed the shield of the Allies. (Cheers.)

THE IMPERATIVE NEED OF DARKENING SHIPS.

The following is an amplification of Sir Eric Geddes' appeal as regards the darkening of ships:—

I am very seriously concerned at the increasing number of vessels lost at night-time, which is often due to negligence. Unless all navigation lights are screened or extinguished darkness does not afford any protection. The slightest visible light is an excellent target, enabling the invisible submarine to secure a good attacking position. Our own submarine commanders are constantly reporting with seeing our steamers at night-time with brilliant lights. Another report showed that during one hour only one out of eight ships were properly darkened. The lights of the other seven were visible at from four to ten miles. Therefore, he appealed to shipmasters and the Press to give prominence to the following points:—(1) Obey instructions, keep a good look-out, and thoroughly darken the ship.

Mr. Aquith, following Sir Eric Geddes, regretted that the First Lord had not indicated the extent of our mercantile losses, and the extent of the measures taken to make good those losses. He deplored the recent decline in monthly construction and strongly urged Ministers, in their several degrees of responsibility, to concentrate with all their energy upon the problem of securing more ships.

PERPLEXITY REMOVED.

LONDON, March 6th.

The statement regarding the sinking of submarines in Sir Eric Geddes' speech has caused perplexity in the House of Commons.

Sir Eric Geddes subsequently privately explained that what he intended to convey was that one submarine in every four or five operating in Home waters failed to return to Germany.

EFFECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN IN IRELAND.

LONDON, March 6th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the Government had been informed that the measures taken in Ireland were having the desired result.

Mr. Bonar Law also stated that the deliberations of the Irish Convention were not ended.

STANDARD SHIPS.

LONDON, March 6th.

In the House of Commons, Sir Leo Chiozza Money stated that 17 standard ships, with a tonnage of 88,000, had been built up to February 25th.

Dr. Macnamara stated that 707 ships damaged by the enemy were now being repaired.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING RECEIVES GEN. SMUTS.

LONDON, March 6th.

General Smuts had a prolonged audience of His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace to-day.

BRITISH PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

LONDON, March 6th.

Reuter's Agency learns that fresh evidence will soon be furnished to Parliament of the recent ill-treatment accorded to the British prisoners behind the German lines, which includes underfeeding, overwork, and employment under fire.

THE CAMBRAI DISPATCH. PRESS COMMENTS.

LONDON, March 6th.

Most of the newspapers complain that Sir Douglas Haig's Cambrai despatch affords insufficient material to apportion the blame. All declare that the British gains at Cambrai were greater than the German.

The *Times* says:—We have benefited by the lesson of the success of the German counter-attack.

The *Daily News* says the responsibility cannot be visited upon Sir Douglas Haig or Sir Julian Byng.

The *Daily Chronicle* objects that nothing is said about the number of British guns and prisoners taken.

The *Morning Post* describes the battle as a great British victory, justifying the ringing of the bells.

The *Daily Mail* says the despatch shows the decisive importance of the air forces. The *Manchester Guardian* points out that the despatch does not explain why Headquarters did not expect such a big initial British success, otherwise French help could have been secured to develop it. Apparently Headquarters did not realise the vigour of the attack.

The *Westminster Gazette* says:—Cambrai would have been a great triumph had Sir Douglas Haig had sufficient forces to retrieve the situation when the Germans rallied.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

PARIS, March 6th.

The Cabinet has approved the calling up of the 1919 class.

Franco-Belgian front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

RAIDS AND REPULSE OF RAIDS.

LONDON, March 6th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We successfully raided eastward of Bullecourt, northward of the Scarpe, and in the neighbourhood of Lens, taking prisoners.

Our casualties were slight.

We repulsed raiders south-eastward of Gouzecourt.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, March 6th.

A wireless German official report states:—Our positions on the north bank of the Yrs were subjected to violent bursts of firing.

A strong English attack at Waasten was repulsed.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH REACH SECOND ENEMY LINE.

LONDON, March 6th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Our raid at Warneton last night met with a strong resistance. At least 40 of the enemy were killed. Nevertheless, we reached the second line and beat off two counter-attacks, inflicting further losses.

Our casualties were light.

The enemy raided two posts, at St. Quentin and Eppey. Four of our men are missing.

The enemy is firing his artillery between Flesquieres and the Scarpe.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

LIVELY ARTILLERY FIRING.

PARIS, March 6th.

A communiqué states there was lively artillery firing in the region of La Rompelle and in some sectors of the Vosges.

EARLIER CABLES.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUEL.

PARIS, March 6th.

A communiqué states:—There was a somewhat violent artillery duel on the right of the Meuse, especially in the region of Fosse, Wood, and in the Vosges.

There is also marked enemy artillery firing in the Vosges sector.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MERCANTILE CRUISER TORPEDOED.

LONDON, March 6th.

The Admiralty announces that the armed mercantile cruiser *Calgarian* was torpedoed and sunk on March 1st.

Two officers and 46 men were lost.

The *Calgarian* was a vessel of 17,000 tons, being formerly the largest Allan liner. She was sunk off the Irish coast. Several torpedoes were fired at her. Over 300 men have been landed at Larne.

The liner had a crew of 400, and 160 Naval ratings were on board.

LATE.

RESCUING STEAMERS' MAGNI- FICENT WORK.

LONDON, March 6th.

The *Calgarian* was torpedoed at four o'clock in the afternoon. The survivors state that the first torpedo did comparatively little damage, forty-five minutes later the second torpedo exploded in the engine-room, and it is feared that few there survived. Several boats were blown to atoms, but the rescuing steamers worked magnificently.

It is reported that the submarine was sunk.

THE RAIDER "SEIDLER."

LONDON, March 6th.

The *Times* Valparaiso Correspondent reports:—Fifty-eight of the crew of the raider *Seidler* have arrived at Talcahuano from Easter Island, where the vessel was wrecked.

NORWEGIAN STEAMER TORPEDOED.

SURVIVORS RESCUED BY AMERICAN DESTROYER.

LONDON, March 6th.

The captain and five of the crew of the Norwegian steamer *Havna* have landed in Great Britain.

The vessel was torpedoed without warning and sank in a minute.

Twelve of the crew are missing.

The survivors clung to a raft all night in bitter cold. They saw eight on the other raft, all of whom died or were washed off. The survivors at daylight managed to right an upturned lifeboat, and this shelter saved them. They drifted for 50 hours before being rescued by an American destroyer.

The Germans refused to help the men who were struggling in the water after the explosion.

IRISH STEAMER TORPEDOED.

LONDON, March 6th.

The Cork steamer *Denmare* was torpedoed. Six of the crew were rescued.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMANY'S NAVAL ACQUISITIONS.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.

A Berlin message states that eight old submarines and three serviceable steamers fell into German hands at Reval.

SPORT.

HOCKEY.

H.K. DEFENCE CORPS v. 83rd CO.

R.G.A.

The following will represent the Defence Corps in the above League match at Happy Valley to-day, bully-off at 4.15 p.m. sharp:—E. W. Hamilton, P. H. Cobb and W. H. Edmunds; G. H. Hackett, F. W. S. Evans, G. H. Piercy, J. Stalker, F. E. Jeseland, K. Brayshaw (Capt.), C. Hodgson, and H. S

AMERICA'S AID IN THE WAR.
EXAGGERATED ESTIMATES.

(By Archibald Hurd.)

When the history of this war comes to be written, tribute will be paid to the splendid spirit in which the American people threw themselves into the struggle being waged at a distance of 3,000 miles from their homes. American troops are rising to the full height of the standard President Wilson set them in his war address to Congress, on April 2nd of last year. What has America done, and what is she doing?

Those are questions of importance, because there is a widespread misconception as to the character and extent of the aid which the Americans are rendering now, and will render in the immediate future. Most people think of the United States in terms of soldiers and ships—ships of war and ships of commerce—and ignore the aid which is already being given in the purely economic field. The Treasury has been practically thrown open to the Allies, which have received hundreds of millions sterling from Washington. Under the far-sighted administration of Mr. Hoover, who distinguished himself in connection with the Belgian relief in America in order that more food may be available for use in Europe. In those respects the United States is performing miracles. The Americans have also made an indirect contribution to the Allies' food supplies by despatching destroyers for duty in European waters. The importance of that aid will be realized more fully when the war is over, and its secrets can be revealed.

EQUIPMENT OF THE TROOPS

What shall be said of America's aid in the matter of troops and merchant ships? In those respects the outlook is not so cheerful as it is admitted on the other side of the Atlantic. It is true that a considerable force is in France already, and a large army is in training—altogether about 1,100,000 men. When the United States intervened she possessed a far smaller regular army than we had in 1914. She had no reserves of any size, and there was no Territorial Force such as saved the military situation in our case, and she had no Officers' Training Corps. These candid statements enable us to appreciate the real worth of the American military effort. Under the pressure of war the men have been obtained, but can they be equipped? It is a question which Mr. Winston Churchill made an arresting statement in that connection. He declared that "by drawing on our resources to such a great a prize, we have enough (munitions) in hand to equip several hundred thousand Americans to the last detail of military outfit, if it were possible by any shipping arrangements to bring them to the seat of war." That is, in fact, what we shall have to do owing to the failure of American policy in that respect, and gladly we shall do it.

The Senate has recently been holding an investigation into the work of the Ordnance Bureau of the Army, and the official admissions published on the other side of the Atlantic should be known here in order that we may follow intelligently the future course of events. The following is a summary of the evidence.

(a) The Ordnance Department has not furnished a single piece of artillery to the American forces at the front.

(b) The armies now in camp in the United States are without artillery, and will not get it before next summer.

(c) Field artillery for the American Expeditionary Force in France is being furnished by France.

(d) The United States have to-day practically no heavy artillery in the war of attrition—essential for an effective offensive on the Western front.

(e) Although the British armies, after three years' experience with the American Lewis gun, have over 90,000 of these in service, the Americans have been experimenting with a new gun (Brownings) but has never been tested in the field, but the Ordnance officials have accepted this gun and are ready to supply it, etc., necessary for its manufacture in quantities. Consequently the Ordnance Bureau will have none ready before next April.

(f) After adopting the Enfield rifle, for the manufacture of which in large quantities American factories were well equipped, as they had turned out several thousand a day for the British Army, the department incurred many months' delay by re-chambering these weapons to suit American ammunition. The delay will make it impossible to furnish the troops with the new Enfield until they are due to start for Europe.

That statement represents the situation to-day as far as the American army is concerned. When Congress declared for war, American arms were supplying the Allies, under conditions in vast quantities. It would have been a simple matter, and would have promoted interchange of equipment, if they had been permitted to "carry on," furnishing the American troops with the types of heavy artillery, howitzers, machine guns, rifles, etc., which had already been tested under severe service conditions. Time was the essence of the matter, particularly as it takes longer to equip an army than to train men; nevertheless, it was determined to manufacture new armament and equipment. The result is that much delay has occurred, and the early drafts of American troops to Europe will be provided with arms and ammunition by the Allies. The matter will be adjusted later on, but in the meantime the American authorities are faced with the difficulties inseparable from so ambitious a programme.

THE SHIP PROGRAMME

The anticipations as to the output of ships this year in the United States will also not be realized. Confusion is often created by the use of different terms—deadweight tons, gross tons, and net tons, or sometimes, to make confusion worse confounded, "tons" merely is the word employed. I will confine myself to net tons. In a normal year the United States built about 200,000 tons of merchant shipping. Soon after the war broke out orders to the account of British, other Allied, and neutral owners were placed in America, and the extension of which has become a source of the demand. Then the United States entered the arena, commandeered all tonnage in course of

AFTER-WAR SETTLEMENT.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

A comprehensive review of the steps that are being taken in regard to reconstruction and demobilization was given by the Minister of Reconstruction before the annual meeting held in a Grand Committee-room at the House of Commons, on January 14th. Mr. J. W. Lowther, M.P., the Speaker, was in the chair.

Dr. Addison observed that one section of the Department was dealing with the introduction of new or suggested professions, with demobilization. Considerable and very gratifying progress had been made in that regard in the engineering industry, which was of enormous social importance because of the mass of munition workers who would be thrown out of employment at the end of the war. Labour had set up local re-settlement committees in demobilization, and he learned that over 50 per cent of the men in the Army had had their places kept open for them. Their aim was, while making sufficient allowance for married men and those who had been with the Colours for a long time, first to demobilize those who were immediately wanted and those whose places had been kept open for them. They were also trying to agree upon such matters as the introduction of improved methods of manufacture, so that the men might go back to work without any misgivings.

Steps were being taken to deal with the disposal of war stores after the war in a businesslike way in order to avoid the scandals of profit-making which had arisen over Government stores. Mr. Salisbury, who was at the head of a committee which, being in touch with great reconstruction projects, would decide how far the stores could be utilised in these projects, or whether they should be otherwise disposed of. We owed so much to our merchant seamen during the war that it was a duty to see they were more adequately protected after the war—(cheers)—so he was taking steps to secure the conditions of their work could not be easily improved when hostilities ceased. (Cheers.)

TRUSTS AND COMMISSIONS

Information was being gathered with a view to dealing with the hundreds of thousands of civil war workers at the end of hostilities, and particularly of diverting them to industries where they were most needed. Great progress had been made with the housing scheme. Mr. Curzon, the well-known contractor, and others were going into the question of the supply of building materials, and another committee was at work on the simplification of local by-laws which obstructed building operations. A forestry programme covering a good number of years had been prepared for the consideration of the Government. Mr. Leslie Scott's Committee had drawn up their report containing recommendations for simplifying the power to acquire land for housing and forestry. Although it had been estimated that 10 per cent of demobilized soldiers would wish to settle on the land, his own view was that the proportion would be nearer 5 per cent. He had asked a number of gentlemen to advise him on the question of trusts and commissions, and the various methods of production would involve a bigger conception of production, bigger organizing units, improved methods of purchase, improved marketing, and closer and more detailed attention to scientific methods. To that end they were trying to get the trades to organize themselves. In pressing for the creation of great trade organizations they run the risk of creating price "rigs" and trusts and combines, which might seem to flourish at the expense of the consumer. Although we wanted big organizations of capital and labour, we did not want an unholy alliance—it was in the interests of trade that that should be thoroughly recognized—(cheers)—and safeguards provided. Without public confidence the movement could not live.

construction, and set up a special department to accelerate construction. At first a fleet of wooden ships was to be built, but that project had to be abandoned. Personal differences have occurred on the Shipping Board causing further delay. The (A) Army and Navy Estimates, of Washington, has remarked: "The trouble with the Shipping Board from the first has been in its recklessness of promise of results, with the disappointment that must ensue from the inevitable failure to realise the programme of construction. . . . It would have been better, if it is now realised, to have placed the entire shipbuilding problem under the Navy Department, which would have been less careless in its assertion of results, than has been wasted, and would have avoided the mistake of the wooden-ships folly."

It would therefore be foolish to "bank" on a phenomenal output of American tonnage in the immediate future, because it will not be forthcoming. The position of steel shipbuilding in the United States does not encourage the belief that anything nearly approaching a 2,000,000 tons—the figure frequently employed—will be turned out this year. There is reason to hope that with the vessels ordered a year or more ago by us and the Allies, the American yards may in the present year complete and send to sea from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 net tons. If the higher output is attained, all concerned will have done well, for an expansion equal to ten times that of 1913 will be an exceedingly fine one.

It is a fundamental error to exaggerate the possibilities of the future, since war is a matter of resources. We have been committing that error for three and a half years, and have paid the penalty. In this particular instance, if we continue to talk of "America's 2,000,000 tons," which the year closes there is a tendency to suggest that the United States has failed whereas if a third of that amount of shipping is finished a good record will have been established. Last year we in these islands turned out between 1,100,000 and 1,200,000 tons. If 1918 we double that, we shall have achieved what the anticipated supply of material and labour can lead us to expect. So, if the Americans build 2,000,000 tons they will have done as well as the country which in the past has been without a rival in this sphere of industrial activity.—Daily Telegraph.

SHALL WE LET GERMANY A COMMONWEALTH OF ALL
DOWN LIGHTLY?A CRIME AGAINST GOD AND
MAN

(By T. E. COON.)

The disposition displayed in certain quarters to let Germany down lightly in the settlement of the war and against the idea of boycotting her in the coming peace, needs examination. And for this reason: our British generosity—not to say stupidity—being what it is, there is a great probability that we shall concede extremely generous terms to the enemy, and a distinct danger that in the making of the Peace Treaty and the framing of our future fiscal policy some of our vital interests will be neglected. There is grave danger, despite all that we have seen and all that we ought to have learned, that we shall make our plans without due appreciation of German cupidity.

What is the right attitude to adopt towards Germany? Admittedly this is one of those questions that have many sides. There is something to be said for the policy of generosity—the policy of shaking hands and trying to be good friends when the fight is over. And there is something to be said for the other policy. As so much depends upon a correct decision in this case, it is not too soon to weigh up, as best we can, the facts and possibilities of the situation. Clear thinking is essential to sound judgment. And clear thinking depends upon full knowledge of all the material facts. What are the material facts?

The first fact, which no one will dispute, is that this war, with its colossal waste, destruction, and human suffering, is the greatest crime in the world's history. The second, but not less important fact, which will surely be acknowledged for all time by all impartial students of affairs, is that Germany planned and provoked the war. The third fact is that Germany has ruthlessly broken some of the most definite and universally acknowledged laws of warfare, as she did solemn treaties of peace. The fourth fact is that Germany has already made the most elaborate plans, and has pledged her credit up to the hilt, to renew, after the war, in a still more intensified form, the "black" trading methods by which she did her competitors so much harm before the war.

For these cardinal reasons Germany deserves to suffer—how much? Surely this is pre-eminently a case where the punishment should fit the crime. Yet no one proposes to treat Germany as she has treated us. It is unthinkable and impossible. If it were possible, no one would suggest the repetition of such barbarities as have characterized Germany's campaign. But when we are invited not merely to let Germany down lightly in the settlement of the war, but to resume free, unregulated commercial intercourse with her after the war—to again open our ports, markets and coaling stations to her, free of taxes or tariffs—it is time to consider what such a policy might lead to. To an honest foe and a clean fighter, generosity by all means. But to the vile things called Germans—punishment and vengeance to the last degree are surely justifiable. We and our Allies in spite of all mistakes—most of them the outcome of a too generous disposition—have Germany at our mercy, and hold her destiny in our hands. Shall we peralise and punish and persecute her after the war? Or shall we forgive and forget—shall we be generous? I submit that the German character is such that it will mistake generosity for weakness.

Germany mistook our military unpreparedness for war as a sign of decadence and cowardice, and plunged Europe into bloodshed in a mad gamble on our supposed weakness. If Germans were ordinary folk we could with satisfaction and safety treat them with ordinary, if not extraordinary, generosity. But have we not ample proof that they are the most calculatingly cruel and unscrupulous of nations? Please observe that we have been the only great nation to give Germany free ports for her ships and free markets for her goods. Before the war Germany made enormous commercial progress, largely by virtue of the freedom of markets, ports and seas, we gave her. At the pre-war rate Germany, within another twenty years, would have attained the supreme position in world commerce—thanks largely to British generosity. That Germany's progress has been arrested is due to nothing but German greed and ambition, and the fact that we have given her the freedom of German ports and German goods, as Germany took care to levy tariffs on all foreign goods. We alone proved extremely generous to the Germans, and in return we are made the objects of their greatest hatred! It is clear, beyond question or doubt, that the Germans could have successfully invaded this country as they did Belgium, they would have treated us with even more fiendish ferocity and more devilish cruelty than they treated the Belgians. It is equally clear, indeed, it is the avowed and publicly-proclaimed intention—that the Germans will adopt every possible means and methods after the war to undercut and "blackleg" us in international trade, as she did before the war.

In the past Germany scandalously abused the "freedom of the seas" we gave her. She shamefully "blacklegged" our traders in the free and open markets we accorded her. She specially subsidized her ships, agents, and goods, with the deliberate and set intention of ruining our British industries. Germany was as unfair as a trade competitor as she is unscrupulous as a fighter. When we cut down our naval programme by nearly

A COMMONWEALTH OF ALL
THE BRITISH STATES

GENERAL PAGE CROFT'S HOPE.

The following is an extract from the introduction to a book by Brigadier-General Henry Page Croft, M.P., C.M.G., entitled "Twenty-two months under Fire."

War is one of those things the British people for nearly half a century have refused to contemplate. Preparation for war meant taxation, and how could any rising statesman, or still less any political party, advocate taxation when the light for success in the political arena depended upon which section could promise most individual gain to the individual elector?

So it was that we drove war from the ambit of our thoughts—we of the British race, who have the greatest frontiers of the world to defend, and from whom the world has most to gain.

All parties ignored the overwhelming evidence which hit us in the face from Germany. No party would listen to Lord Roberts, and none would stand to defend that great man from the taunts and gibes of second-rate political adventurers.

An annual expenditure on a national army of five days' cost of this war would have probably given us peace, and most certainly would have saved Belgium and deprived our enemies of that great start which they gained whilst our patriotic people—untaught, unorganized, unarmed—began to learn the business of war.

The greatest Empire the world has ever known at the striking of the decisive hour of fate could only place four divisions in the decisive theatre of war—that was the prepared effort of 400 million subjects of our King.

This is not the hour to apportion the blame, neither is it the moment to ask how it was that the guardians of this great heritage had failed, with such criminal neglect, to organize the Empire and to prepare for its defence. The time will come when these questions will be asked with some persistence. Then countless widows and orphans will demand an account of the stewardship which deceived and fooled the people, and finally plunged a nation into a war which was known to be imminent and for which no sort of preparation was made.

One fact stands out with a clearness that must be obvious, and that is, that the present political system of the British Empire has failed, and never again can issues of peace and war, or the defence of the Empire, be left in the hands of men whose sole possession is political popularity, and who were so greatly occupied with party strife that they gambled with and risked the life of the greatest—yes, still the greatest—nation on earth. To the men of the Overseas Dominions, whom I have lived with, fought alongside of, and learnt to admire on the field of battle, even more than in the days when I endeavoured humbly to serve the Imperial ideal at home, I would add this request: Do not judge our people by our political rulers, but rather join with the people of the old country to purify a system which is at fault. For whilst our political rulers have failed, these also in the younger countries were little more successful in teaching the true path of patriotism that freedom is of more worth than wealth.

This war has found the nations of the British standing together, fighting together, dying together, and is not the great lesson which it teaches and which the ages can never dim, first, that scattered as we are, we can still claim similar qualities of steadfastness of purpose, courage against all odds, greatness in adversity, and humility in our hours of victory; and, second, that severally we could not have lasted the course, but together we shall win through! The States of the Empire are essential one to the other, and henceforth we, who have all to gain and all to lose, must be united in a common will to enter a Commonwealth in which we shall and our League of Peace, a Commonwealth of all the British States.

In the hope and belief that out of the blinding dust and shattered wreckage of this war will come so great a good, I dedicate this little book of impressions to my comrades in the battle-field.

GENERAL SIR W. ROBERTSON AND
THE Y.M.C.A.

General Sir William Robertson, writing with respect to the National Appeal now being made by the Young Men's Christian Association for one million pounds sterling, says: "I wish you well in the enterprise you are undertaking to pay off the overdraft, and to enable the great chain of Huts for the men of the Navy and Army. I know what an incalculable benefit the provision of these Huts is to the fighting Services, and I cordially hope that all professions and trades will generously respond to this urgent call."

One-half in an endeavour to prove our peaceful intentions, Germany at once repudiated her efforts to build a navy to sweep us off the seas, just as she maintained an army to menace the peace and bully the people of the world. And as soon as she felt herself strong enough to overcome all probable opposition she set out on the most hellish campaign, and with the least provocation and the smallest excuse, ever recorded in the annals of this world. And this campaign she has conducted with an utter disregard of the laws of nations and of humanity.

A decent nation would be entitled to generosity in spite of any temporary lapse. But to Germany—the nation that has committed the vilest and most colossal crimes deliberately, as a set policy, and against the most unoffending and harmless people—to a nation that has abused every economic freedom broken every treaty pledge, and violated every law that stood in the way of her brigandage and "blacklegging"—that has imposed every possible suffering and indignity upon her victims—any and every spark of generosity displayed to this nation will be a crime against God and man—an infidelity to the Providence that has given us the power to resist, and will yet give us the strength to vanquish, this nation of fiends.—The Globe.

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TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO
STRAITS, COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c.

Steamers	Leave Hong Kong	Connecting Mail	Due at MARSEILLES	Due at LONDON
COLOMBO	1817	Str. from Colombo	1817	1917

When Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO.
Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking.
On the Australian Route Tickets interchangeable with Orient Line.

SAILINGS DIRECT TO
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

S.S. LEAVE HONGKONG ABOUT

Passengers may travel by Railway in Japan between Ports of Call free of charge.
Return Tickets are available to Messageries Maritimes Company.

INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS

(Non-Transshipment).
IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS,
WILL LEAVE DIRECT FOR

MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

Calling at SINGAPORE, PORT SWETTENHAM, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

CARRYING 1ST AND 2ND SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

STEAMERS	Leave Hong Kong	Leave SINGAPORE	Due at MARSEILLES	Due at LONDON
	about	about	about	about
The Intermediate Service is Temporarily Suspended.				

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.
All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge and each Berth furnished with an Electric Reading Lamp.
Round-the-World Tickets and Through Tickets to New York in connection with the Principal Mail Lines.
Return Tickets at fare and a half available to Europe for Two Years or to Intermediate Ports for Six Months.
Owing to the War in Europe Steamers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.
Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GORDON & PEARCE, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.
For Further Information, Passages, Fares, Freight, Handbooks, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to
E. V. D. PARR,
Superintendent.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(JAPAN MAIL S.S. CO.)

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATION	STEAMERS & DISPLACEMENT	SAILING DATES
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	KITANO MARU ... 16,000 tons ... FRI.	16th March 11 A.M.
	SHIDZUOKA MARU ... 12,000 tons ... SAT.	23rd " 11 A.M.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	NIKKO MARU ... 8,000 tons ... SAT.	16th " 11 A.M.
	AKI MARU ... 12,500 tons ... SAT.	20th April 11 A.M.
SHANGHAI, MOJI & PENANG	PENANG MARU ... 10,000 tons ... FRI.	8th March 4 P.M.
	BENTEN MARU ... 8,000 tons ... SAT.	10th March.
LONDON or LIVERPOOL via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA BAY & CAPE TOWN		
MELBOURNE via MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, THURSDAY, IS., TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE & SYDNEY		For dates of sailing apply at the Company's Office.
NEW YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO & PANAMA CANAL		
BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA & COLOMBO		
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON		

§ Omitting Shanghai and/or Moji. + Wireless telegraphy.

HONGKONG, VICTORIA, B.C., SEATTLE

MANILA, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI & YOKOHAMA.]

Operated by the magnificent and splendidly equipped passenger steamers "FUSHIMI MARU," "SUWA MARU," "KASHIMA MARU" and "KATOKI MARU," each of over 20,000 tons displacement.

Next SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

↑ FUSHIMI MARU ... Wed., 13th March, 11 A.M.
↑ KASHIMA MARU ... SAT., 23rd March, 11 A.M.

↑ Omitting Manila Eastbound.

For further information apply to
NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA,
B. MOJI, Manager.

Telephone 202 and 293

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

SAN FRANCISCO LINE.

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, JAPAN AND HONOLULU
FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
KOREA MARU	18,000	SAT., 8th Mar.
SIBERIA MARU	18,400	FRI., 22nd Mar.
TENYO MARU	22,000	TUES., 9th Apr.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	TUES., 16th Apr.
SHINYO MARU	22,000	SAT., 27th Apr.
PERSIA MARU	8,000	FRI., 10th May

The ss. "Nippon Maru" and ss. "Persia Maru" omit call at Shanghai.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG to VALPARAISO via JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA and IQUIQUE.
THENCE BY TRANS-ANDIAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

ANYO MARU	18,500 Tons
KIYO MARU	17,500 "
SEIYO MARU	14,000 "

Tickets are interchangeable with the CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES, LTD., and the PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.
Passengers may travel by Rail between Ports of Call in Japan free of Charge.
For full information as to rates, sailings, etc., apply to—

T. DAIGO, Manager,
Singapore Buildings.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI.
SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE

Ports of call:—Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, Suez, Port Said, Marseilles.

(ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.)

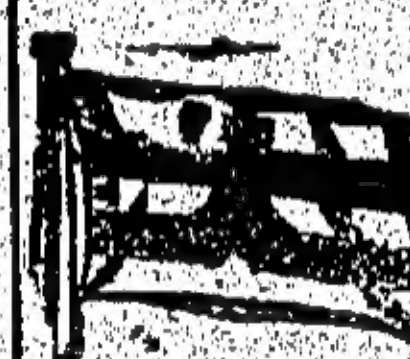
Return Tickets to Europe available two years.

Return Tickets to Intermediate Ports available six months.

For full particulars regarding sailings, apply to

F. THOMAS, Agent,
Queen's Building.

TELEPHONE 740

O. S. K.
OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

(REGULAR SERVICE, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG)
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

North American Line. For VICTORIA, SEATTLE and TACOMA via SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA and YAMAGUCHI.
"AFRICA MARU" ... WEDNESDAY, 20th Mar., at 5 P.M.
"CANADA MARU" ... TUESDAY, 26th Mar., at 3 P.M.
"MANILA MARU" ... THURSDAY, 28th Apr., at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connections are made at Puget Sound with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every three months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling at Auckland, N.Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay calling at Singapore and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manila, Sandakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING PASSENGER OR FREIGHT APPLY AT OFFICE.

FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Auping, Tainan, via Swatow and Amoy.
"AMAKUSA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 10th Mar., at 10 A.M.
"JOSEPH MARU" ... MONDAY, 11th Mar., at 9 A.M.
"SOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 14th Mar., at 6 A.M.
"KAJO MARU" ... SUNDAY, 17th Mar., at 10 A.M.

These Formosan Liners will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 75 will be fixed.

For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

K. YAMASAKI, Manager,
No. 1, Queen's Building.

TEL. Nos 744 and 745.

CHINA MAIL S.S. CO., LTD.

(FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS)

S.S. "CHINA"

WILL SAIL FROM HONGKONG FOR

SAN FRANCISCO

VIA SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, YOKOHAMA AND HONOLULU TO SAN FRANCISCO.
APRIL 10, 1918.

AN UNSURPASSED HIGH-CLASS PASSENGER SERVICE AT INTERMEDIATE RATES.

O. H. BENTLEY, Freight and Passenger Agent,
Prince's Buildings, Lee Hock Street.

